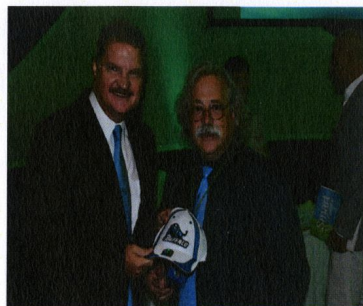


SRRT Newsletter

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Going Green in the Caribbean



by Fred Stoss, Associate Librarian, Oscar A. Silverman Library, University at Buffalo - SUNY

Fred Stoss recently attended the Green Aruba III Conference at the invitation of the Government of Aruba. His invitation came at the request of Mrs. Astrid Britten, Director of the National Library of Aruba and was facilitated through the conference co-sponsors, the Ministry of Justice and Education, the Ministry of Finance, Communication, Utilities, and Energy, Elmar N.V., W.E.B. Aruba N.V. and Utilities Aruba N.V.

The theme of this year's conference was "Smart and Sustainable." The program dealt with Aruba's dedicated efforts to present their vision for a future economy built on alternative energy strategies on the island nation. The goal is to end Aruba's dependence on an oil-based economy by becoming the world's first sustainable country by 2020. Three themes: *Aruba +20*, *Technology and Finance*, and *Green Energy for Households and Demand Site Management* were addressed by 24 speakers representing government, finance, business, and research interests from Aruba, the Netherlands, the U.K. and the U.S. The conference keynote address, *Smart*

Island Strategy, was delivered by Jose Maria Figueres, former President of Costa Rica and President of the Carbon War Room.

Fred Stoss' involvement with the topic of sustainability formally began more than a decade ago with his serving as a member of the team that designed and implemented the American Library Association's "Libraries Build Sustainable Communities Project (LBSC)" from 1999 to 2001.

On October 8-9, 2012, the first Symposium of the Caribbean Energy, Environmental and Sustainability Education (CEESEd) program reached out to more than 2000 Aruban high school students and students from the post-high school professional training institute. These students heard four speakers and members of the Aruban Government emphasize the importance of their participation in Aruba's development of its future sustainable economy. Fred's concluding presentation, "CEESEd: Grabbing Sustainable Ideas for Schools in Aruba," provided a rationale and call to action for students to involve themselves in a variety of STEM and other non-science learning activities exploring their interests in "things green" and related to energy. Several science education websites were shown as examples for student use in various projects and activities: the National Science Digital Library (NDSL - the National Science Foundation's online library of resources and collections for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education) and education sites from NASA, the U.S. Department of Energy, and UNESCO.

See Fred's blog at <http://libweb.lib.buffalo.edu/staff/index.asp?ID=35> for the full story!

Online versions of print media coverage and news-photo archives are at:

[Minister Dowers na Green Education Symposium](#)

[Minister di Energia Mike de Meza](#)

[Green Education Symposium Aruba 2012](#)

[Premier Eman den forum di BNA riba energia alternativa](#)